



الوكالة الوطنية للأمن السيبراني
National Cyber Security Agency

National Information Security Compliance Framework- Certification Symbols- Usage Policy

[NCSA-NGAA-NISCF-UPCS-V1.1]

The NISCF Symbols: Use of Certification Symbols

National Governance and Assurance Affaires
National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA)

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الوكالة الوطنية للأمن السيبراني
National Cyber Security Agency

LEGAL MANDATE(S)

Based on Emiri Decree No 1 of year 2021, National Cyber Security Agency - Governance and Cyber Assurance Affairs is the entity responsible for issuing certificates for Technology and Information Security service providers and certificates of compliance with National Information Security standards and policies.





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1. Introduction

The National Information Security Compliance Framework (NISCF) Certification Program provides a mechanism for organizations to evidence compliance to the State of Qatar's information security policies, standards and manuals. The NISCF is being developed to offer a large variety of certification related to national and international policies and standards.

The NISCF symbols are provided by National Governance and Assurance Affairs (NCSA) as formal recognition that organization meets standard and certification requirements at the time of assessment.

An organization once certified for any of the certification schemes (see Appendix 2), is entitled to use the NISCF certification symbols and/or appropriate words in its advertising and publicity material, in accordance with the rules as prescribed in this document. Certified Organizations may use the relevant NISCF Symbols respectively to identify themselves as having demonstrated compliance with normative standard(s), set of NISCF requirement(s) and Laws in the state of Qatar.

This document considers all NISCF requirements for certification, as well as applicable mandatory documents.

2. Purpose

This document sets out the conditions for the use of National Governance and Assurance Affairs (NCSA) NISCF symbols. The conditions contained in this document shall be met by all National Governance and Assurance Affairs Certified organizations using the NISCF symbols.

This document considers the NISCF requirements of certification, as well as applicable mandatory documents.

3. Scope

This document defined rules and conditions applicable for the use of the NISCF certification symbol and other claims of certificate of compliance. All participants shall always adhere strictly to these conditions.

The policy is applicable to all National Governance and Assurance Affairs certified organizations, applicants, and other stakeholders.



4. Terms and Definitions

“Certification”:

Certification allows organizations to showcase their compliance to National Information Security Compliance Framework (NISCF) requirements and ensures that the organization and/or systems are resilient in an adequate manner taking into account the criticality of systems to the organization.

“Certified Organizations”:

Organizations that have undergone a comprehensive assessment or Audit and satisfactorily demonstrate compliance with the required National Information Security Compliance Framework (NISCF) requirements and approved by National Governance and Assurance Affairs (NCSA).

“Certification symbol”:

The symbol(s) issued by National Governance and Assurance Affairs for use by Certified Organizations to indicate its certification status



5. General Format and Display of NISCF Certification Symbol

- 5.1. The National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) Logo or any other associated Logo are for the exclusive use of the respective entity and prohibited from being used by any certified organization or organization seeking certification (Example of the NISCF Certification Symbol are referred in [Appendix: 2](#)).
- 5.2. Organization shall not display the NISCF Certification symbols in any manner that suggests that the National Governance and Assurance Affairs or NCSA is a part of their organization.
- 5.3. The NISCF certification symbols, or any elements thereof, shall not be included in the trade or business name, domain name, product or service name, logos, slogan, or other trademarks.
- 5.4. Certified organizations shall use the NISCF symbol only under the name of the registered trade name of the legal entity in which it holds certification.
- 5.5. The NISCF certification symbols shall be displayed only in the appropriate format, proportion, color, and wording (as detailed in [Appendix 1](#)).

6. Use of the NISCF Certification Symbol or Reference to NISCF Certification

- 6.1. Organizations may only use NISCF certification symbols related to a standard to which they have been certified.
- 6.2. Only certified organizations are authorized to use the NISCF certification symbols. NISCF certification symbols are not interchangeable.
- 6.3. The NISCF Certification Symbols shall not be used in any way that might mislead the reader about the status of a certified organization, service or product. In all publications or advertising scope of certification must be presented as transparent as possible, to avoid creating any misleading impression. There must be clear and unambiguous reference to the subject matter of the certification.



- 6.4. Organizations Certified in more than one certification scheme, may display the different symbols together or may display only the appropriate NISCF certification symbol accompanied by one or more of the appropriate certification number(s).
- 6.5. The NISCF certification symbols or reference to certification shall not be:
- i) used to imply or create the impression that National Governance and Assurance Affairs approves or certifies the security posture of an organization or product, process, service, management system or person; or
 - ii) used in a way that may imply that National Governance and Assurance Affairs accepts responsibility for the accuracy of an assessment or audited by an Accredited Service Provider (ASP), or any opinions or interpretations derived thereon.
- 6.6. Advertising and publicity material featuring the NISCF certification symbol must be immediately discontinued upon the expiry or withdrawal of the certification.
- 6.7. Permissible examples of publicity and advertising materials including; marketing and promotional materials (brochures, pop-up banners, posters, newsletters, presentations, advertisements, websites, template signature on emails),
- 6.8. National Governance and Assurance Affairs reserves all right to randomly audit all marketing and promotion materials bearing the NISCF certification symbol and may periodically send out requests for samples.
- 6.9. The use of the NISCF certification symbol or reference to NISCF certification on items other than material, as mentioned in 5.7, is not permissible and any diversions shall be subject to approval by National Governance and Assurance Affairs. Permission may be sought by emailing an example of the intended use of the NISCF certification symbol to the assurance@ncsa.gov.qa.

7. Misuse of the NISCF Certification Symbol

- 7.1. In the event of misuse of the NISCF certification symbols, National Governance and Assurance Affairs reserves the right to issue violations and



sanctions depending on the gravity of the violation and consistent with appreciate Law in the state of Qatar.

7.2. The following instances constitute an offense and are subject to sanctions detail in section 7:

7.2.1.1. the misuse of the NISCF certification symbol by organizations, where certification is claimed for areas not certified;

7.2.1.2. using the NISCF certification symbols in a misleading manner;

7.2.1.3. the use of the NISCF certification symbol or reference to certification during suspension or after certification withdrawal;

7.2.1.4. misrepresentation and/or use of the NISCF certification symbol by organizations not certified by National Governance and Assurance Affairs. National Governance and Assurance Affairs reserves the rights to protect the NISCF symbols legally against unauthorized use.

8. Sanctions

8.1. National Governance and Assurance Affairs shall take appropriate actions to deal with incorrect or misuse of the NISCF Certification symbols or misleading or unauthorized claims to certification. These actions may include:

8.1.1.1. request for corrective actions;

8.1.1.2. withdrawal of certificates/symbols issued by the National Governance and Assurance Affairs;

8.1.1.3. the suspension and withdrawal of certification;

8.1.1.4. legal actions;

9. Symbols Artwork

9.1. Electronic artwork files for the NISCF Symbols are available on request from the National Governance and Assurance Affairs. Appendix 1-2: provides the layout and color details of the Symbols.

9.2. The following contact information can be used to obtain the NISCF Symbols and clarification or permission to use the NISCF Symbols, including Symbol Artwork files:

Contact	Information
Email	assurance@ncsa.gov.qa



Contact	Information
Telephone	(+974) 2362220
Address	Governance and Assurance Affairs, National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA), P.O. Box 24100, Wadi Al Sail Street, Doha, Qatar



Appendix 1:

Colour Specification

On all full-color communications materials, NISCF certification symbols should be reproduced in the following NISCF symbol colors or reversed out in white.

Pantone and **CMYK** for print, and **RGB** or **HEX** for screen display or web

Gold	Sliver	Bronze
PANTONE 871 C	PANTONE 877 C	PANTONE 876 C
RGB 132 117 78	RGB 138 141 143	RGB 139 99 75
HEX/HTML 84754E	HEX/HTML 8A8D8F	HEX/HTML 8B634B
CMYK 0 17 55 50	CMYK 45 34 34 0	CMYK 0 41 53 42

General rules and guidance:

- NISCF Symbols artwork shall not be edited in any way other than to increase or decrease in size (in alignment with the guidance provided within this document).
- The NISCF Symbols shall not be translated or otherwise localized into any other language. National Governance and Assurance Affairs shall provide any localized versions of the Symbol.

Symbols Clear Spacing

It is important to keep the symbol area clear of any distracting elements. Allow at least **4 mm of clear space** around the NISCF Symbols.

Symbol Minimum Sizing

When reproduced, for both digital and printed media, Symbols should not be produced in size any smaller than **20mm** and Minimum print & Digital size: **21mm H**






Appendix 2:

Example of the NISCF Certification Symbol

The National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) Logo's or any other associated Logo are for the exclusive use of the respective entity and prohibited from being used by any certified organization or applicant organization:

The following NISCF certification symbols are to be used by certified organization in accordance with their granted certification scopes:

Scheme	Scope	Symbols
National Information Assurance (NIA) Certification	Certification of compliance for organizations' Information Security Management Systems against NIA Policy and NIA Manual requirements.	
E-Service (SSQA) Certification: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Level 3 (Gold Standard)• Level 2 (Silver Standard)• Level 1 (Bronze Standard)	<p>The SSQA Certification is granted upon demonstrating E-Service compliance against Software Security and Quality Assurance (SSQA) standards requirements.</p> <p>All Agencies providing an E-Service are required to obtain E-Service (SSQA) Certification, which has three levels of certification:</p>	  



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